

By: Guillen, Lozano

H.B. No. 597

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to boater education and examinations on preventing the  
3 spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants,  
4 fish, and shellfish.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 31.108, Parks and Wildlife Code, is  
7 amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

8 (a-1) A boater education course or equivalency examination  
9 under this section must include information on how to prevent the  
10 spread of exotic harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plants,  
11 fish, and shellfish, including department-approved methods for  
12 cleaning:

- 13 (1) a boat;  
14 (2) a boat's motor;  
15 (3) fishing and other equipment; and  
16 (4) a boat trailer.

17 SECTION 2. The Parks and Wildlife Department boater  
18 education courses and equivalency examinations must include  
19 information on how to prevent the spread of exotic harmful or  
20 potentially harmful aquatic plants, fish, and shellfish as required  
21 by Section 31.108(a-1), Parks and Wildlife Code, as added by this  
22 Act, on or before January 1, 2014.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

H.B. No. 597

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.